



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

# AFGHANISTAN

## BEFORE & AFTER

# Women's Radio Station Back on Air

**Radio stations stay on air and serve their communities with USAID support**

*When a fire forced Radio Sahar off the air, USAID's Afghanistan Media Development and Empowerment project supported the rebuilding of this station run by women in Herat. In record time, the Internews technical team managed to get Radio Sahar broadcasting again. Sheela Sidiqi, a student and regular listener, spoke for the community when she expressed appreciation that Radio Sahar is back on air. "I think Radio Sahar plays a vital role in women's lives. We get some very important information...and are happy we have such a useful radio station." USAID's support for media development has enabled Afghan women make themselves heard.*



Photo By: USAID/AMDEP/ Internews

**BEFORE** Radio Sahar, a Herat station run by women, has been on air since 2003, becoming an integral part of the community's life with its focus on issues to do with women and youth. But in November 2011, an electrical fire destroyed the studio. The station went off-air.



Photo By: USAID/AMDEP/ Internews

**AFTER** Using the expertise of Internews' technical team, USAID supported the rebuilding of Radio Sahar. It was part of its commitment to empower Afghan women and enable them to make themselves heard in the media. As one regular listener remarked "Radio Sahar is the first radio station that has given women a voice."